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Docket No. LUM-100XC1  
Serial No. 10/672,371Remarks

Claims 1-16 are currently pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 4, 10, 13 and 15 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12, 14 and 16 are before the Examiner for consideration.

The claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The Examiner notes discrepancies in the units given for examples of strike and run frequencies produced by the subject circuit. The applicant submits however that these frequencies are dictated by the requirements of the cold cathode tube. Specifications for a cold cathode tube include the required strike voltage and the required run voltage. Various conditions of the tube dictate the optimum frequency at which these tubes are run. Optimum frequency is controlled by, for example, desired light output, bulb chemistry, wiring and board requirements as well as tolerable heat loss. Choice of the tube and other resonance elements including the inductive storage device and resonance capacitor determine the start and run frequencies. These frequencies then allow selection of the R/C network and oscillator for the circuit. One skilled in the art presented with the circuit diagrams would be able to construct the subject circuit to run a desired tube. As an example, for a 4.2 mm X 18 inch tube, an optimum start frequency of 48 KHz at 1800 volts rms and an optimum run frequency of 45 KHz at 835 volts rms were determined for placement of the tube for use as backlighting in a gaming machine. The specification enables one skilled in the art to construct the unique, energy efficient circuit of the subject invention. In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the applicant believes that the claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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